(d) So far, no Railway station has been identified in Andhra Pradesh for development in collaboration with HUDCO.

Conversion of Visakhapatnam-Bangalore Express service into daily service

1014. SHRI RAMACHANDRAIAH RUMANDLA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Visakhapatnam-Bangalore express service would be converted into a daily service; and

(b) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b) It is proposed to increase the frequency of 8563/8564 Visakhapatnam-Bangalore Express from 4 days a week to daily during the year 2000-2001.

Railway Reforms Commission

1015. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up a Railway Reforms Commission to go into the problems of Indian Railways and suggest remedial measures;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) by when its report is likely to be received?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (c) The Hon'ble President in his address to the joint sitting of the Parliament on 25.10.99 has, *inter alia,* announced that "a Railway Reforms Commission will be set up to evolve a new resource mobilisation

strategy, rationalise tariff, prioritise the project portfolio, and urgently fulfill the unmet needs of railway safety". The composition and detailed terms of reference of the proposed Commission are under consideration of Government.

Case about carrying of Coal, Timber detected by Railway Vigilance

1016. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA:
SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of carrying of coal, timber and such other commercial articles from North East in excess of the declared quantity detected by the railway and other vigilance agencies during the last five years, till February 15, 2000;

(b) the item-wise quantity and financial involvement, amount of fine imposed on private parties and public authorities responsible therefor; and

(c) the amount of demurrage collected from FCI and the amount of compensation paid by the Railways on account of delayed unloading and theft cases, respectively in North-East during that period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) 346 (Three Hundred Forty Six).